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(72) Inventor: **Sheu, Jim J.**  
**Dunwoody, Georgia 30338 (US)**

(74) Representative: **Schoppe, Fritz, Dipl.-Ing.**  
**Schoppe, Zimmermann & Stöckeler,**  
**Patentanwälte,**  
**Postfach 71 08 67**  
**81458 München (DE)**

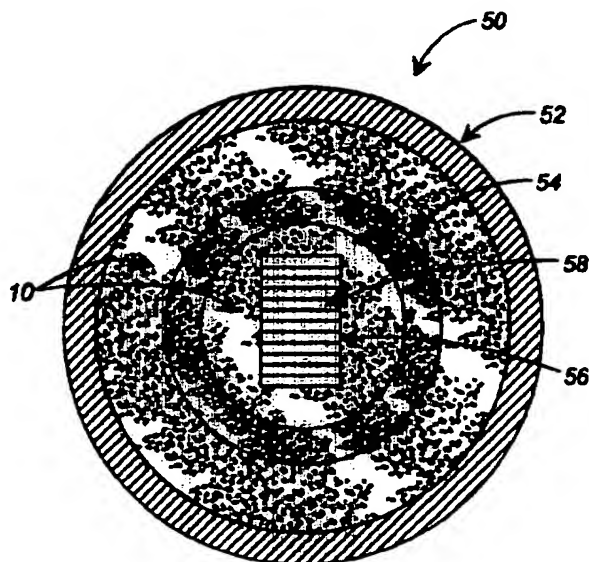
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(71) Applicant: **LUCENT TECHNOLOGIES INC.**  
**Murray Hill, New Jersey 07974-0636 (US)**

(54) **Cables with water-blocking and flame-retarding foam**

(57) The cable (50) of the present invention incorporates a core (54), an outer jacket (52) surrounding the core, and a water-absorbent foam (10) disposed between the core and the outer jacket as well as inside the core. In a preferred embodiment the water-absorbent foam is a super-absorbent foam comprising a poly-

urethane or similar type foam loaded with super-absorbent polymers (SAPs) which exhibit both water-blocking and flame-retarding characteristics. Additionally, the foam preferably is provided with a moisture content of greater than approximately 0 percent, by weight, thereby improving the flame-retarding characteristics of the foam.



**Fig. 2**

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# EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

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EP 00 30 7639

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CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document		T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons - : member of the same patent family, corresponding document	

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